LIBRARY
NEW LONDON, CONN.
APR 8 '55
STACKS

NATURE CONSERVATION NEWS

VOL. 5 - NO. 1
MARCH 1955

NEW INFORMATION BULLETINS

No. 10 - "Natural Area Parks for Your Community" outlines the need and offers methods for developing this urgent community asset.

No. 11 - "Field Trips" tells how to plan a series of Nature Conservancy field trips for your state or region this spring for maximum conservation results.

No. 12 - "Romance and Technique of Raising Money" by James King Quay (reprinted from *Philanthrophy* magazine), outlines 12 steps for successful fund raising.

No. 13 - "Policies and Standards for Natural Areas" is a report of the Committee on Policies and Standards for Natural Areas.

These are available on request from our central office as are minutes of the recent meetings of the Board of Governors and recent financial reports.

MORE EXOTICS FOR HAWAII

A herd of Mouflon or Mediterranean Bighorn Sheep was liberated on Lanai during the summer of 1954, according to a report of the Committee on Fauna Conservation of the Conservation Council for Hawaii. This sheep has a body similar to an antelope and a head similar to the Rocky Mountain Bighorn.

Bobwhite quail from Florida were introduced on Oahu and Hawaii. Twenty-four were liberated on each island. Chukar partridges have also been recently released on all the major islands.

POINT LOBOS WILDFLOWERS

Point Lobos Reserve State Park, California, has set a high standard for other state parks to meet with the publication of "Point Lobos Wildflowers". Twelve color illustrations highlight the attractive booklet written by Ken Legg and illustrated by Park Superintendent Roland Wilson. The scientific check-list is by Herbert L. Mason. Guiding hand behind the project was that of Nature Conservancy Board member C. M. Goethe. The booklet is available from the Printing Division (Documents Section), Sacramento 14, Calif. for 50¢.

REGIONAL NOTES

CALIFORNIA: The Conservation Information Service has been formed to provide a means of alerting groups on California conservation problems. Two issues of the publication, *The Alert*, have already been issued. Secretary-treasurer is Margaret Henderson, 1152 Picacho Dr., La Habra. Individual subscriptions are $2, clubs $10.

≡ ≡ ≡ The Desert Protective Council was formed on October 23, 1954 "to safeguard for wise and reverent use by this and succeeding generations those desert areas of unique scenic, scientific, historical, spiritual, and recreational value". First major objective of the Council is to preserve the integrity of Joshua Tree National Monument. Council address is Box 308, Palm Desert, California. Harry C. James is president.

CONNECTICUT: Mamacoke Island, a 40-acre rocky and wooded peninsula rising 200 feet above the Thames River near New London, Conn., was purchased for a total price of $15,000 on March 14, 1955, to add to the Connecticut Arboretum at Connecticut College.

The island, uninhabited and undeveloped since Indian times, will be kept essentially in its natural state, with road construction forbidden.

Dr. Richard H. Goodwin, Connecticut representative of the Nature Conservancy and director of the Connecticut Arboretum, reported that 26 organizations and 210 individuals made contributions ranging from $1 to $2,000 since the effort to preserve the island got underway August 26, 1954. The adjacent shoreline already is part of the Arboretum, which now totals 300 acres.

MINNESOTA: A movement to "Save Minnesota's Wetlands" has been developing in recent months. Buttons are being sold for $1 apiece by sportsmen's clubs and other civic groups and the proceeds are going into a wetlands acquisition fund in the state treasury.

NEW YORK: On December 21, 1954, Mrs. Anna R. Butler presented a wooded tract of 225 acres located between Mt. Kisco and Bedford, N. Y., to the Nature Conservancy.

Richard H. Pough, president of the Conservancy, accepted the tract, to be known as the Arthur W. Butler

Memorial Sanctuary. The tract includes swamps, streams, meadows and an oak-hickory forest.

Trail improvements are the only changes planned for the area, which will be used for educational and scientific purposes by interested groups. It will be administered by a group of local residents under the chairmanship of Robert J. Hamershlag, Katonah.

≡ ≡ ≡ The Dome Island Committee of the Nature Conservancy has raised approximately $5,650 toward its goal of $20,000 for a fund to maintain Dome Island, Lake George, New York. The owner of the island will present it to Nature Conservancy when this goal has been reached. The island, a rounded glacial kame covered with a majestic forest of oak, pine, hemlock, beech, basswood, and canoe birch is viewed by thousands of tourists each year.

≡ ≡ ≡ A second $5,000 payment on a part of the Mianus Gorge on the New York-Connecticut border was made on March 1, bringing total payments made by the Mianus Gorge Committee of Nature Conservancy to $10,000. The $20,000 balance must be raised by June 1.

The tract extends for more than half a mile along the west bank of the Mianus River in the township of North Castle, N.Y., north of Greenwich and Stamford, Conn. Acquisition of the tract is part of the committee's long range plan to secure a 200-to 300-acre natural area for scientific research and educational purposes in that part of the Mianus River Gorge which runs from Bedford Falls on the southern boundary of Bedford south to Farms Rd., Stamford. Several adjoining lands are being donated and the committee estimates that the remainder can be purchased for an approximate total of $50,000.

The Gorge boasts a forest of giant hemlocks and hardwoods in a setting of towering cliffs and waterfalls. Geological interest is added by the old mica mines and quartz beds found in the Gorge.

PUERTO RICO: A report that the Cartagena Lagoon, Lajas, Puerto Rico, may be drained and farmed for more sugar cane, has been received. The lagoon is said to be the most important breeding ground for resident waterfowl as well as the most important refuge for migrant water birds in Puerto Rico.

VIRGIN ISLANDS: Plans are underway to set aside most of the 12,700 acre island of St. John in the Virgin Islands as a national park.

Impetus for the action came from Laurance A. Rockefeller. To help assure preservation of the island he has been negotiating to acquire portions of it. Thus far about half is under option. It is expected that this will be donated to the National Park Service if the national park proposal is approved by Congress.

St. John Island is 1,442 miles southeast of New York City. It is considered by many the most beautiful of the three U. S. Virgin Islands.

Don't forget
to send your contribution
for Corkscrew Swamp

WASHINGTON: Interior Secretary Douglas McKay termed erection of a tramway at Mt. Rainier National Park as "not necessary" and added that it would be given no further consideration in development plans for the park.

At the same time, the Secretary outlined a comprehensive development program for the national park in a letter to Washington Governor Arthur B. Langlie.

Among projects already underway at Mt. Rainier are completion of Stevens Canyon Road; rope ski tows installed at Paradise Valley; and opening of the Cayuse Pass-Tipsoo Lake ski area on the east side of the park.

Further studies are being made to determine the feasibility of installing, among other things, a T-bar lift nearly a mile long at the park's Paradise Valley; and possible expansion of public use area and facilities on the north and east sides of the park.

PUBLIC PRESERVE POLICY RESOLUTION

To more clearly define its degree of concern with natural areas already set aside, the Eastern New York Chapter of Nature Conservancy adopted the following resolution at its November meeting. This has since been endorsed by the Board of Governors of the central organization.

"The Nature Conservancy is a body dedicated to the preservation of natural areas for scientific, educational and esthetic ends. It is an action organization which through private voluntary efforts acquires a bit of wilderness, an unspoiled natural spot, a treasure of God's handiwork to study, to exult over, to draw strength from.

"Our private efforts must be inadequate before the onslaughts of the organized forces of exploitation. We can save from desecration a corner of nature here and a strip of value there. But where government, state or national, is committed to a similar policy of preservation we must, in consonance with our principles, support it. We cannot in conscience stand by idly where vast areas of wilderness in public domain are jeopardized.

"Our sense of proportion demands that while we continue to promote the preservation of the fringes, we ought not lose sight of the main body of natural areas in the public domain.

"As we champion public wildland reserves we enlist allies for Nature Conservancy in acquiring and preserving private natural areas. A people which has mobilized its forces of government for the perpetual protection of its outdoor wonders will look with favor on our efforts in the same direction. And in the process of offering leadership in the public campaigns we shall learn to refine and define our principles of conservation to give them popular acceptance."

Scientific Areas in Wisconsin

By J. T. CURTIS
University of Wisconsin

Our few remaining areas of original landscape are rapidly disappearing before the plow, the cow and the axe. Their relatively minute size makes them at best a pitiable representation of the prairie and forest of a century ago. The task of saving at least remnants of them for study and enjoyment is an urgent one.

We in Wisconsin are fortunate that our conservation leaders were foresighted enough to set up the machinery whereby an adequate statewide system of scientific areas may be preserved, but they were not a moment too soon.

The 1951 Legislature created the State Board for Preservation of Scientific Areas which would be responsible for setting up throughout the state a system of scientific areas. The purpose of such scientific areas was threefold: they are necessary for scientific research, for the teaching of conservation, and for the preservation of rare or valuable plants and animals and whole communities for future generations. This action is the latest step in a movement which has been growing since the early visions of John Muir in the last century. Our desire to preserve our native landscape seems to increase as the areas worthy of preservation become more scarce. In some regions, we have realized too late that our future advances in some field sciences depend upon the very existence of suitable "fields" which can be studied!

The State Board began its activities in November 1951, with members representing the Conservation Department, the Department of Public Instruction, the Milwaukee Public Museum, private and state colleges, and the University.

What is a scientific area? This is how the State Board has defined it: A scientific area is *a tract of land in its natural state;* it is set aside and permanently protected or managed in order to preserve native plant and animal communities—either the whole community or rare or valuable individual members of such areas. So far we have considered primarily areas of importance to the biological sciences, but scientific areas of value to geological, archaeological or other interests may be included whenever there is a real need.

The Board as such neither owns land nor has direct control over any land. To date, all approved Scientific Areas are the property of a state agency or of a public or private institution or organization. What the Board does is this. When an area is suggested for possible inclusion in the Scientific Area system, the Board investigates its claim to scientific value, its ownership and guarantee of future preservation and its relations to other similar areas in the same vicinity. Lands of private individuals are eligible if covenants guaranteeing their future are made. If the area is deemed worthy of preservation, the Board makes recommendations to the agency which owns it suggesting management practices which will save or improve the initial values. When the owners agree to the management recommendations, the areas are entered in the official state list of Scientific Areas. This list will be published every two years.

Sixteen areas have now been officially approved. They are largely prairie remnants, hardwood and conifer woods.

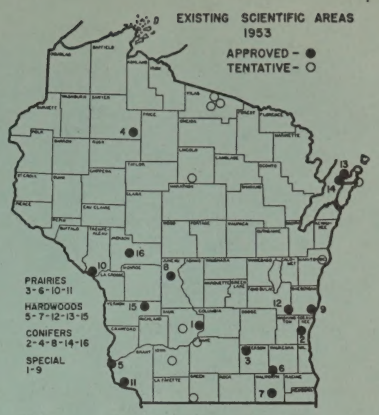
At the present time, an additional ten areas are under consideration and have received preliminary approval by the Board. These include hardwood forests and prairies in southern Wisconsin, and pine forests, hemlock forests and conifer swamps in northern Wisconsin.

While we still need more fine examples of all of these types, our greatest lack is in areas representing vegetations or habitats *not now preserved at all.* Examples of these are sedge meadows, cattail marshes, aquatic habitats of several types, pine barrens, sand dunes, upland spruce-fir forests, and flood-plain hardwood forests. The aquatic habitats should encompass portions of the shores of soft-water, hard-water and bog-water lakes, headwaters and portions of trout streams with intact watersheds, and representative shorelines of the larger rivers including the Wisconsin and the Mississippi.

Actually, some of these areas could serve "double duty." The pine barrens area could perhaps be made to coincide with a sharp-tailed grouse range, while certain of the other areas could also aid in the preservation of rare or interesting animal species.

The Board would be interested in learning of any area of scientific value deemed worthy of preservation—a description of the area along with an indication of some feasible means of preserving it. Such information should be sent to Mr. C. L. Harrington, Secretary of the Board, State Office Building, Madison, Wisconsin, or to any of the following members of the Board: A. M. Fuller, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee; Alvin Throne, Milwaukee State College, Milwaukee; G. E. Watson, Department of Public Instruction, Madison; Carl Welty, Beloit College, Beloit; and J. T. Curtis, chairman, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The accompanying map shows the location of the scientific areas which have been approved and those which are under consideration. Following is a list of the presently existing Scientific Areas, along with a brief description of each. Complete information on each area is on file in the office of the secretary of the Board, Mr. C. L. Harrington.



List of Scientific Areas in Wisconsin As of Oct. 1, 1953

1. **Parfrey's Glen**
   - Location: W½ NW¼ Sect. 23, NE 8.6 acres SE NE Sect. 22, T 11N, R 7E. Sauk Co.
   - Size: 88.6 acres
   - Dominant Characteristic: Rocky ravine rich in mosses, liverworts and ferns
   - Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
   - Administering Agency: Devil's Lake State Park.
2. **Cedarburg Bog**
   - Location: NE¼ Sect. 32 and the S. 48 acres of the S½ of the SE¼ of Sect. 29, T 11N, R 21 E. Ozaukee County
   - Size: 208 acres
   - Dominant Characteristic: Tamarack Swamp forest with some white cedar and black spruce
   - Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
   - Administering Agency: Kettle Moraine State Forest
3. **Faville Prairie**
   - Location: S½ of NE¼, Sect. 19, T 8N, R 14E. Jefferson Co.
   - Size: 60 acres
   - Dominant Characteristic: Virgin wet prairie
   - Ownership: University of Wisconsin
   - Administering Agency: U. W. Arboretum Committee
4. **Flambeau Hemlock–Hardwoods**
   - Location: Sect. 5, SW NW the SW¼ and Lot 1; Sect. 6, N½ of Lot 6, and Lot 7; Sect. 8, NE NW and NW NW. T. 37N, R 3W. Sawyer County
   - Size: 360 acres
   - Dominant Characteristic: Virgin forest of hemlock, sugar maple and yellow birch

WISCONSIN AREAS (CONT.)

Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Flambeau State Forest

5. **Wyalusing Hardwood Forest**
Location: Sect. 16 (S. of Wisconsin River and E of Immigrant Trail), T 6N, R 6W. Grant County
Size: 200 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Mixed oak forest, with both north and south exposures
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Wyalusing State Park

6. **Scuppernong Prairie**
Location: Part of NW NW and that Part of the NE NE Sect. 17 lying between the acute angle of Hgys. GN and N. Waukesha County
Size: 45 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Wet prairie, with small oak opening
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Kettle Moraine State Forest

7. **Wychwood Oak Forest**
Location: In Sect. 3, T 1N, R 17 E. Walworth County
Size: 70 acres
Dominant Characteristic: White Oak —Red Oak Forest
Ownership: University of Chicago
Administering Agency: U. of C., Botany Department. Open for study by prior arrangement only

8. **Necedah Oak–Pine Forest**
Location: SE SE, NE SE, and S½ of SE NE, Sect. 34, T 19N, R 3E. Juneau Co.
Size: 100 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Open stand of Hill's Oak and Jack Pine
Ownership: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Administering Agency: Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

9. **Cedar Grove Hawk Refuge**
Location: Parts of NE, NW. Gov't Lot 1, Gov't Lot 2, Sect 30, T 13N, R 23E. Sheboygan County
Size: 31.7 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Gathering place for hawks during migration
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Commission
Administering Agency: WCD Game Division, Area IV

10. **Brady's Bluff Prairie**
Location: Parts of S 10 acres SE NW and N 30 acres of NE SW, Sect 20, T 18N, R 9W. Trempealeau County
Size: 30 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Virgin dry prairie on steep bluff
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Perrot State Park

11. **Dewey Heights Prairie**
Location: Part of NE SE Sect. 13, T 3N. R 6W. Grant County
Size: 5 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Virgin dry prairie, with native colony of cliff swallows on cliff
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Nelson Dewey State Park

12. **New Prospect Hardwood Forest**
Location: That part of Sect. 12 lying S and W of junction of Hgy SS and GG, T 13N, R 19E. Fond du Lac County
Size: 75 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Sugar maple, red oak, basswood forest
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Kettle Moraine State Forest

13. **Peninsula Beech Forest**
Location: Parts of NE of Sect. 22. T 31N, R 27E. Door County
Size: 30 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Virgin beech forest with some sugar maple
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Peninsula State Park

14. **Peninsula Cedar–Spruce Grove**
Location: Parts of NW NW of SW of Sect. 28 and gov't lots 2 and 3 in Sect. 29, T 31N, R 27E. Door County
Size: 40 acres
Dominant Characteristic: White Cedar–White Spruce open forest on abandoned Lake Michigan beaches
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Peninsula State Park

15. **Mt. Pisgah Hemlock Hardwoods**
Location: That part of the NE SW southeast of the river and the west five chains of the NW SE sect. 14, T 14N, R 2W. Vernon County
Size: 30 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Relic stand of Hemlock–hardwoods
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Wildcat Mountain State Park

16. **Castle Mound Pine Forest**
Location: That part of the NE SE lying south of highway and north of top line of ridge. Sect. 23. T 21N, R 4W. Jackson County
Size: 20 acres
Dominant Characteristic: Healthy young stand of white pine, with some red pine and jack pine
Ownership: Wisconsin Conservation Department
Administering Agency: Central Wisconsin Conservation Area

--Reprinted from Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin for May 1954. More recently Ridges Sanctuary, Door Co., and Midway Prairie, La Crosse Co., have been added to the list. Approval on ten other tracts is pending.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President:
RICHARD H. POUGH
American Museum of Natural History

Vice Presidents:
F. RAYMOND FOSBERG
Falls Church, Virginia

Secretary:
DANIEL SMILEY
Mohonk Lake, New York

Treasurer:
JOSEPH J. HICKEY
University of Wisconsin

ERNEST BROOKS, JR.
Old Dominion Foundation

CONRAD CHAPMAN
Boston, Massachusetts

FRANK E. EGLER
Norfolk, Connecticut

ALBERT M. FULLER
Milwaukee Public Museum

DEVIN A. GARRITY
Devin-Adair Company, N.Y.

C. M. GOETHE
Sacramento, California

G. B. GUNLOGSON
Racine, Wisconsin

WILLIAM HARD
New Canaan, Connecticut

PAUL A. HERBERT
Michigan State College

S. CHARLES KENDEIGH
University of Illinois

A. STARKER LEOPOLD
University of California

JEAN M. LINSDALE
Carmel Valley, California

ARMIN K. LOBECK
Columbia University

HERBERT A. McCULLOUGH
Howard College

KARL A. MENNINGER
Topeka, Kansas

M. GRAHAM NETTING
Carnegie Museum

E. LAURENCE PALMER
Cornell University

ROBERT L. PERKINS, JR.
Tenafly, New Jersey

J. E. POTZGER
Butler University

JAMES B. ROSS
Atlanta, Georgia

ROBERT W. SCHERY
Marysville, Ohio

PAUL B. SEARS
Yale University

ADOLPH M. STEBLER
Oklahoma Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Stillwater

JULIAN A. STEYERMARK
Chicago Natural History Museum

WILLIAM VOGT
Planned Parenthood Federation of America

ALVIN G. WHITNEY
Delmar New York

Executive Director:
GEORGE B. FELL
Washington, D. C.

The Nature Conservancy is an independent member-governed organization dedicated to saving America's heritage of wild nature. Its specific object is to preserve natural areas as "living museums" of the primeval wilderness. Such tracts are precious for their scientific, educational, and esthetic values. They also afford a home for the multitude of kinds of living things that would otherwise vanish from the earth, destroyed by our civilization.

The work of the organization began in 1917 under the direction of a committee of the Ecological Society of America. In 1946 the Ecologists Union was formed to take over these tasks. In 1950 its name was changed to the Nature Conservancy.

We, the members of the Nature Conservancy, invite you to join with us in this work. Membership is open to both individuals and organizations. Your contribution is an allowable income tax deduction.

Nature Conservancy
4200 22nd Street, Northeast
Washington 18, D. C.

Date.....

Please include me (our organization) as a member. Enclosed is $.....

☐ Individual ☐ Organization

A contribution of $2 or more entitles you to annual membership with publications and one of $100 or more to Patron membership.

Name

Address

City Zone State